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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/092,548	03/08/2002	Junichi Kimura	2002_0188A	8800

513 7590 06/12/2003

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EXAMINER

HA, NATHAN W

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2814

DATE MAILED: 06/12/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/092,548

Applicant(s)

KIMURA, JUNICHI

Examiner

Nathan W. Ha

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 13 May 2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-17 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-17 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s) _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims 1-8 and 16-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Iijima et al. (US 2001/0008309, herein after Iijima.)

In regard to claim 1, in fig. 3, Iijima discloses a multi-layer board comprising:

a ceramic layer 201; and

a first resin layer 202 over the ceramic layer; and

a first impedance element, for example 203, formed on the ceramic layer.

In regard to claim 3, Iijima further discloses a second resin layer, also 202, over the ceramic layer, the second resin layer being disposed at an opposite side of the first resin layer about the ceramic layer, see also fig. 3.

In regard to claims 4 and 17, a strip line, also 203, formed on the second resin layer, see also fig. 8.

In regard to claim 5, Iijima further discloses a third resin layer, also 202, over the first resin layer, see fig. 3.

In regard to claim 6, see discussions of claim 4.

In regard to claims 2, 7, and 16, Iijima further discloses electronic component 203 or 205 formed on resin layers.

In regard to claim 8, Iijima further discloses a fourth resin layer, also 202, over the first resin layer, see fig. 3.

In regard to claim 14, copper foil layer 203 function as a resistor.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 9-15 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Iijima as applied to claim 1-8 above, and further in view of Kawakami et al. (US 2002/0027282, herein after Kawakami.)

In regard to claims 9-15, Iijima discloses all of the claimed limitations as mentioned above, but Iijima does not expressly describe the components in the substrate such as electric component, capacitor, or resistor.

Kawakami, in fig. 1, discloses an analogous device includes low and high dielectric substrates 6, 7, and 8 and further teaches that the substrates contain electric component such as capacitor, resistor and inductor, for example, in order to improve the

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device characteristics since these substrate have low dielectric constant, see sections [0002], [0006].

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to modify the component in the substrate of Iijima as taught by Kawakami in order to obtain the advantage as mentioned above.

In regard to claims 11 and 15, regarding the processing limitations recited therein (laser-trimmed, etc.), this would not carry patentable weight in these claims drawn to structure. In re Thorpe, 227 USPQ 964 (Fed. Cir. 1985).

In regard to claim 12, see Iijima's fig. 3.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Nathan W. Ha whose telephone number is (703) 305-3507. The examiner can normally be reached on M-TH 8:00-7:00(EST).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Wael Fahmy can be reached on (703) 308-4918. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 308-7722 for regular communications and 308-3432 for After Final communications.

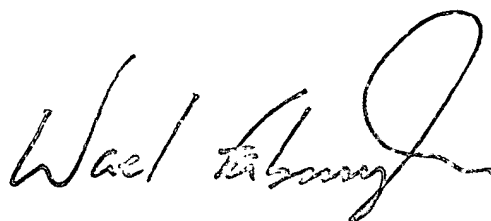
Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0956.

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Nathan Ha
June 9, 2003

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Wael Labadie". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end.

SUPERVISORY PRIMARY EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800